

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00612 311355Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OC-06 CCO-00 ACDA-07 EUR-12
OPR-02 /087 W
-----010853Z 094260 /13

R 311230Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9559
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY OUAGADUOGOU

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ABIDJAN PASS ALSO AID/REDSO AND USDAO

NIAMEY PASS RDO

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CGEN, PDIP, PINS, DM
SUBJ: TRAVEL IN BENIN

1. EMBOFF TRAVELED COTONOU-LOME-COTONOU MARCH 25-28,
ENCOUNTERING MINIMAL DIFFICULTIES. THREE CONTROLS ENCOUNTERED
ENROUTE, TWO MANNED BY BENINESE SOLDIERS ON EACH SIDE OF
OUIDAH, ONE GENDARMERIE CONTROL LOCATED BETWEEN COME (MONO
PROVINCE) AND TOGO FRONTIER. AT EACH CONTROL VEHICLE WAS
SEARCHED AND LAISSEZ-PASSER DEMANDED. EMBOFF EXPLAINED THAT AS
HE WAS LEAVING COUNTRY, THERE WAS NO NEED FOR LAISSEZ PASSER
FOR TRAVEL IN INTERIOR. EXPLANATION SUFFICED AT EACH CHECK-
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POINT.

2. BORDER CROSSING ALSO NO PROBLEM. EXIT VISA NOT
REQUESTED. ON RETURN TRIP, EXPLANATION SIMILAR TO ONE CITED
ABOVE (EMBOFF ENTERING COUNTRY, NOT ENGAGING IN INTERIOR
TRAVEL) AGAIN ACCEPTED. EMBOFF WAS ALSO WAVED THROUGH TWO
CUSTOMS CHECKS, THANKS TO DIPLOMATIC PLATES.

3. TOGO-BENIN BORDER OPEN ONLY BETWEEN 0500Z AND 1700Z
ON BENINESE SIDE.

4. COMMENT: REQUEST FOR LAISSEZ PASSER INDICATES THAT TRAVEL
REGULATIONS ACTUALLY IN EFFECT, ALTHOUGH WILLINGNESS ON PART OF
BENINESE SECURITY FORCES MANNING CHECKPOINTS TO ACCEPT SPECIOUS
EXPLANATION PROFFERED BY EMBOFF INDICATES THAT ENFORCEMENT NOT
BEING UNIFORMLY PURSUED. GPRB COULD, OF COURSE, TAKE STEPS
TO CORRECT REPORTED ANOMALIES, BUT CURRENT DEGREE OF ENFORCE-
MENT APPARENTLY THE DECISION OF "THE COP ON THE SCENE".

5. FYI: DESPITE CANADA'S AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO JOIN
OTHER MISSIONS IN PROTESTING TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS, CANADIAN
THIRD SECRETARY FROM ACCRA HAS REQUESTED LAISSEZ-PASSER FROM
FONMIN IN ORDER TO PROCEED TO TOGO. THOMPSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRAVEL DOCUMENTS, TRAVEL CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COTON000612
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770112-0073
Format: TEL
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977034/aaaaacyt.tel
Line Count: 78
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b7b5d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3049240
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL IN BENIN
TAGS: CGEN, PDIP, PINS, OTRA, DM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b7b5d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
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